

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 TRSE-00 EB-08 COME-00 /074 W
-----028461 171029Z /17

R 161415Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 239
USIA WASHDC
INFO AMCONSUL ADANA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
CINCUSAFE
USCINCEUR
USDOCOLANDSOUTH EAST IZMIR
USDOCOSOUTH NAPLES
USMISSION GENEVA
USMISSION USNATO

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USEEC

USOECD

USDOCOSOUTH FOR INTAF

USINFO FOR IOP/MA, IBS/PN, IPS/PE, IEU

E.O. 11652: NA
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TAGS: IMF, EFIN, EGEN, TU
SUBJECT: TURKISH PRESS REPORTS THAT IMF AWAITS ECEVIT GOVERNMENT'S
PROPOSAL

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. ON JANUARY 13 MILLIYET REPORTED THAT THE IMF HOPES TO ESTABLISH

CONTACT WITH THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT AFTER THE NEW GOVERNMENT WINS ITS VOTE OF CONFIDENCE. MILLIYET'S WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT, SAYNUR GOREN, WENT ON TO SAY THAT THE IMF IS WAITING FOR THE ATTITUDES THE NEW GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE TO BE DETERMINED, AND THAT IT IS REFRAINING FROM MAKING ANY SORT OF COMMENT AT PRESENT.

2. AN UNIDENTIFIED IMF OFFICIAL REPORTEDLY TOLD CORRESPONDENT THAT THE IMF IS AWAITING RESULTS OF AN EVALUATION NOW BEING MADE BY THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT; DEPENDING ON THESE RESULTS, EITHER A TURKISH TEAM WILL COME TO WASHINGTON, OR AN IMF TEAM WILL GO TO ANKARA FOR FURTHER NEGOTIATIONS. THE OFFICIAL SAID THAT IT IS NOT PRESENTLY KNOWN IF THE DISCUSSIONS WOULD RESUME AT THE POINT REACHED WITH THE PREVIOUS GOVERNMENT, OR WOULD BE BASED ON NEW MEASURES THAT THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT WILL PREPARE. HE ADDED, HOWEVER, THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT WOULD PROBABLY WANT TO RENEGOTIATE SOME POINTS IN ANY CASE.

3. OTHER IMF SOURCES REPORTEDLY SAID THAT THE NEW GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSALS AND VIEWS MUST BE BROUGHT OUT INTO THE OPEN. ONE OFFICIAL WAS QUOTED TO THE EFFECT THAT IT IS NOT A MATTER OF FORCING ACCEPTANCE

OF AN IMF PRESCRIPTION, BUT TURKEY'S INTERESTS WOULD BE SERVED BY PREPARING A TURKISH PRESCRIPTION AND BEGINNING TALKS WITHOUT LOSING TIME. HE HOPED THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT WOULD TAKE ACTION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. END UNCLASSIFIED

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4. COMMENT: WE BELIEVE THAT THE ATTITUDE REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED BY THE IMF WILL BE WELL RECEIVED BY THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT. AT PRESENT, THE MOST IMPORTANT IMPEDIMENT TO REACHING AGREEMENT ON IMF STANDBY CREDIT FOR TURKEY IS THE DESIRE OF THE NEW GOVERNMENT THAT POLITICAL CREDIT FOR AGREEMENT ATTACH TO IT AND NOT TO THE DEMIREL COALITION, WHICH NEGOTIATED WITH THE IMF FROM LAST SEPTEMBER THROUGH DECEMBER. FOR THIS REASON, AND BECAUSE HE VALUES A REPUTATION

FOR ORIGINALITY, ECEVIT MAY WELL WANT TO APPEAR TO HAVE DEVELOPED AN ECONOMIC STABILIZATION PROGRAM INDEPENDENTLY OF THE IMF, TO WHICH THE FUND COULD AGREE. WE BELIEVE THAT THE REPORTED IMF STATEMENTS LEAVE ROOM FOR THIS POSSIBILITY.
SPIERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 16 jan 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978ANKARA00376
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780024-0716
Format: TEL
From: ANKARA USEEC
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780161/aaaabzln.tel
Line Count: 109
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 409e63e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 28 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3772395
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TURKISH PRESS REPORTS THAT IMF AWAITS ECEVIT GOVERNMENT'S PROPOSAL BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED
TAGS: EFIN, EGEN, TU, IMF, (ECEVIT, BULENT)
To: STATE USIA
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/409e63e3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014